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27 November 1972



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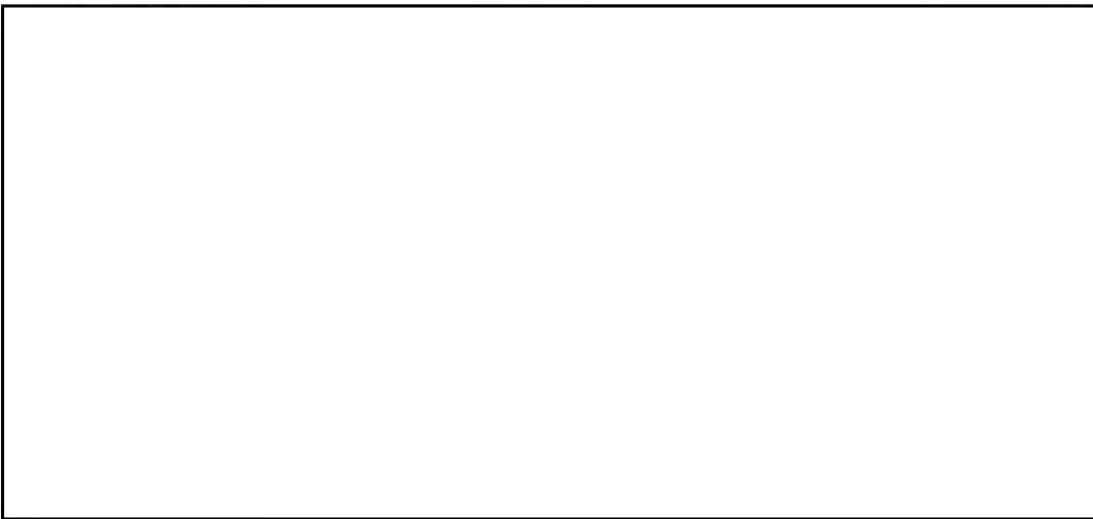
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BOLIVIA: The labor crisis in La Paz eased over the weekend as the government released arrested union leaders and striking workers returned to their jobs. Discussions on wage-price consequences of devaluation are to resume, but the nation will remain under a state of siege. Whether the counterproductive attempt to deal with labor unrest was due to a lack of interministerial coordination or was a deliberate move by Interior Minister Adett-Zamora to further his own ends remains unclear. In any case, continuing inept handling of the month-old devaluation is straining the governing coalition and seriously tarnishing President Banzer's image within the armed forces.

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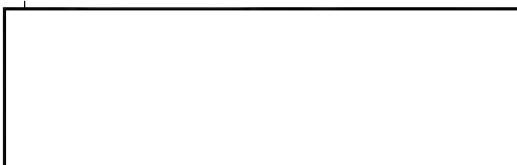
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UN: The US proposal that its financial contribution to the UN be reduced to 25 percent of the regular UN budget may win committee approval, but adoption by the General Assembly is very much in doubt. Support for the reduction has been building steadily in the General Assembly's administrative and budgetary committee, and the US probably will get the simple majority it needs when the proposal is put to a vote early this week. When the matter subsequently comes before the full Assembly, however, Assembly President Trepczynski probably could engineer the defeat of the proposal by ruling that it is a budgetary question and thus requires a two-thirds vote to pass. The UN legal adviser has refused the US request that he try to dissuade Trepczynski from such a ruling. Moscow has been attempting to sow further doubt about the proposal among African delegations--whose support will be crucial if a two-thirds vote is necessary--by suggesting that the Soviet UN contribution should also be reduced.

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